

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington**

To: ABCD Providers

**Memorandum No: 04-68 MAA
Issued: August 30, 2004**

From: Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary
Medical Assistance Administration (MAA)

For Information Call:
1-800-562-6188

**Subject: Access to Baby and Child Dentistry (ABCD): Third-Party Insurance Payments
to be Deducted Prior to MAA's Payment**

Effective for dates of service on and after November 1, 2004, the Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) will deduct third-party insurance payments for all ABCD services prior to paying ABCD claims.

Prior to the establishment of nationwide HIPAA codes, the ABCD program used state-unique codes for certain services provided to clients. Third-party insurance payments for these codes were not deducted prior to MAA's payment. Therefore, some ABCD providers received MAA's proper reimbursement amount in addition to full reimbursement from third-party insurance.

Effective for dates of service on and after November 1, 2004, MAA will process ABCD claims consistent with other MAA claims with third-party insurance payments; the insurance payment will be deducted prior to any MAA payment.

If the total insurance payment exceeds the MAA maximum allowable fee, MAA considers the claim paid in full by insurance. If the total insurance payment does not exceed the MAA maximum allowable fee, MAA will reimburse the provider the difference between the maximum allowable fee and the insurance payment.

To obtain MAA's numbered memoranda and billing instructions electronically go to MAA's website at <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov> (select the *Billing Instructions/Numbered Memoranda* link).

Bill MAA your usual and customary charge.